PLAN BELIZE 2025

The Belize Times

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MORE MONEY FOR SMALL BUSINESS

Cabinet Approves Fiscal Incentives for Cooperatives

This week, as part of its comprehensive commitment to the support and promotion of MSMEs, Cabinet approved amendments to the Fiscal Incentives Act. The amendments will provide for an extension of the period of formalization of MSMEs, with an extended tax amnesty, and most importantly, for registered cooperatives to be eligible for fiscal incentives.

This is huge move by government to ensure that it provides opportunities to businesses across the board, at all levels. Cooperatives, which are mainly artisanal producers and service providers and are micro, small and medium enterprises, currently do not qualify for fiscal incentives, because their business status is not registered under the Belize Compa-

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MORE MONEY FOR SMALL BUSINESS

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nies Act. By allowing registered co-operatives to become eligible to qualify for fiscal incentives, Government would be directly benefitting many micro and small producers.

In 2023, and again in 2024, the Government sought to streamline and modernise the Fiscal Incentives Act after recognizing that of almost 8000 businesses operating in Belize, just over 7400 of them were categorized as MSMEs. These businesses accounted for over 50% of employment in the country. Further studies confirmed that over 40% of the economic activity in Belize was informal, meaning that many businesses were not registered with the Belize Companies and Corporate Affairs Registry or with the Belize Tax Service.

The amendments allowed those businesses not registered to do so, on or before October 31, 2024, without incurring any penalties or interest. Those formalized businesses would then also be eligible for a one-year exemption from Business Tax. Additionally, registered MSMEs would be able to apply for Import Duty, Revenue Replacement Duty and Excise Duty exemptions for a period of four years. Government also committed, through those amendments, to ensuring that 20% of goods purchased, or contracts entered into, would be with registered MSMEs.

But even with those amendments to the Act creating an enabling environment for MSMEs, along with constant mentoring and guidance provided by the Belize Trade and Investment Development Service (Beltraide), the Government is doing more. With the amendments approved this week by Cabinet, registered Cooperatives will enjoy the same privileges as all MSMEs under the law. And these current amendments will go further to allow unregistered businesses and cooperatives up to October 31, 2025 to get registered without penalties or interest, and with eligibility to qualify for a year's exemption from Business Tax.

Since 2020, this government of the People's United Party has orchestrated a complete rebounding of the economy, with growth at record levels. It is the enabling environment and atmosphere of inclusivity for businesses and entrepreneurs which has provided a stable and fertile environment for the nation to grow.

2024 ELEVATED VISITOR EXPERIENCE AND NUMBERS

Outlook for 2025 is Brighter

Belize's tourism industry accomplished a landmark achievement in 2024. Preliminary figures indicate that overnight tourism surpassed pre-pandemic levels recorded in the benchmark year, 2019. This milestone reflects the collective efforts of the entire tourism industry.

Overnight Tourist Arrivals 2019 - 2024P

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024P	% Change '23 vs '24	% Change '19 vs '24
January	50,590	48,554	6,908	25,667	42,412	57,628	35.9	13.9
February	49,868	50,817	7,938	30,241	48,476	59,067	21.8	18.4
March	57,697	23,962	15,444	41,909	52,431	69,202	32.0	19.9
April	46,694	689	14,609	39,228	42,833	47,825	11.7	2.4
May	36,779	543	20,814	33,006	32,871	45,332	37.9	23.3
June	42,938	212	26,362	34,080	38,819	47,002	21.1	9.5
July	45,196	621	27,742	37,138	43,059	44,275	2.8	-2.0
August	33,764	705	16,782	31,099	33,358	37,760	13.2	11.8
September	19,645	772	11,685	17,783	19,768	23,262	17.7	18.4
October	25,341	3,179	13,574	18,946	19,132	27,616	44.3	9.0
November	38,981	4,856	22,848	25,620	35,804	43,039	20.2	10.4
December	55,674	9,213	34,286	37,897	55,760	60,397	8.3	8.5
	503,166	144,124	218,991	372,614	464,723	562,405	21.0	11.8

In 2024, Belize welcomed 562,405 overnight visitors, representing a 21% increase over 2023 and an 11.8% increase compared to 2019. Impressively, 11 out of 12 months were record-breaking in comparison to 2019, with March emerging as the peak month, attracting 69,202 visitors.

As Belize builds on this momentum, the outlook for 2025 is even brighter, with exciting opportunities ahead to further elevate the visitor experience and attract new travelers to our shores. The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) extends its heartfelt gratitude to all stakeholders for their dedication and resilience in making 2024 a record-breaking year. The BTB remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing sustainable tourism development, enhancing the visitor experience, and preserving Belize's extraordinary natural and cultural heritage. Together, we look forward to building on this success and welcoming even more travelers to discover the wonders of Belize.

POWERFUL PUP NORTHERN CAUCUS QUARTERLY

Forward ever... backward never...

The powerful PUP Northern Caucus holds its quarterly meeting. The Caucus is chaired by Thea Garcia, now PUP standard bearer for Corozal Bay.

Party Leader PM Briceño: "I am proud to lead the Caucus as leader of the Party and Area Representative for OW Central."

The meeting was being held in San Estevan Village in the OW Central constituency. The 9 constituencies will report, followed by discussions to assess election readiness.

Minimum Salary en 2025

Salario Mínimo en México (and Belize) ¿Qué Tan Alto es En Comparación con Otros Países de Latinoamérica?

- 1.- Chile - 512.00 pesos diarios
- 2.- Belice - 487.13 pesos diarios
- 3.- Uruguay - 485.46 pesos diarios
- 4.- Guatemala - 483.99 pesos diarios
- 5.- Ecuador - 470.00 pesos diarios
- 6.- México - 415.53 pesos diarios
- 7.- Colombia - 373.41 pesos diarios
- 8.- El Salvador - 365.00 pesos diarios
- 9.- Honduras - 353.07 pesos diarios
- 10.- Bolivia - 350.00 pesos diarios

This it lends high credibility to Belize and our planBelize government's relentless announcements that Belize is booming economically when compared to the region and with the recent Barrow 2008-2020 grievous harm onto Belize.

The charts for 2018 and 2025 that follow will show the salaries in US dollars at the rate of the year in question. This was posted on X by President Claudia Sheinbaum. The numbers should be taken as an estimate by their statistics team and not necessarily using Belize's five dollar an hour minimum per hour wage. To be fair, Costa Rica is missing from the chart for whatever reason but it takes away nothing from what Belizeans led by John Briceño and team have accomplished in four short years.

The Belize Times

serving Belize since 1957 as the longest continuous newspaper.

Founder: Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price, People's United Party Leader Emeritus

OFFICE MANAGER
Fay Castillo
EDITOR
José Jiménez
LAYOUT/GRAPHIC ARTIST
Chris Williams
OFFICE ASSISTANT
Roberto Peyrefitte

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TIMES NEWSPAPER LTD.
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Email: belizetimesadvertisement@yahoo.com

EDITORIAL

SERVE THE PEOPLE

Late last week, the Government of the People's United Party broke ground on a major infrastructure project that will see the upgrading of 9.5 miles of road, connecting Bullet Tree to Spanish Lookout. That road, serving five productive communities, will transform the lives and livelihoods of residents. It is much more than infrastructure. It is one critical link in the chain that is PlanBelize.

This week, the Government of the People's United Party announced the complete rehabilitation of 16 miles of the Philip Goldson Highway, a project that will address drainage in critical communities like Ladyville and Lord's Bank. This is more than just infrastructure. It is a transformational project that will benefit thousands of residents in our vibrant, growing communities. It is another critical link in the chain that is PlanBelize.

This week also, a representative from the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing was on morning shows speaking about the ongoing housing project, an initiative of the People's United Party Government that came to life just months after elections in 2020. This project has impacted the lives of hundreds of Belizeans, hundreds of families who needed a hand up, not a handout. Transformational. A commitment under PlanBelize.

This week also, it was announced that the record for overnight arrivals of tourists to Belize was broken in 2024. That is not an obscure statistic which serves no purpose. That is a transformational statistic. It means that our hotels, resorts, tour operators, shops, clubs, vendors are directly benefitting. It means that our people have meaningful work. It means that this Government of the People's United Party is doing the right thing. It is PlanBelize at work.

There is now a beautiful welcome center in San Jose Succotz, and another in Seine Bight. These centers showcase the vibrant, awesome culture of these communities, and provide a venue where tourists and local visitors can experience that rich history. These are not fly by night initiatives. These are transformational projects which offer the people opportunities and give them a sense of pride to cherish. This is Plan Belize. They are a part of Plan Belize.

In Belize City, Mahogany Street was just that – a street. Now it is a showcase where vendors can sell their wares to tourists and locals. Colorful booths have completely renewed that landscape. It may seem a small thing, but it is not. It is about providing opportunities to our people. It is a transformational project, a commitment under Plan Belize kept.

Under a Government of the People's United Party, for the first time we heard about Digital Connect Centers. These are hubs in remote communities across the country where our people can access resource materials. They have access to computers and devices with high-speed internet. It may seem a simple thing, a Digital Connect Center – but it is a transformational project, connecting our people to the information superhighway. Plan Belize at work.

This week, the nation celebrated the birthday of the Rt. Hon. George Price. He was a man who believed in service. He would have been proud of this government of the People's United Party. The work started before elections in 2020, with the crafting of Plan Belize. And that work has never stopped. Every single community in Belize has been touched by Plan Belize, whether by a new road, a new school or health center, an upgraded water system or solar electricity. Whether is it by access to National Health Insurance, to a parcel of land, or to free education. This government is working, and it lives by the motto – SERVE THE PEOPLE.

EDITORIAL

en Español

SERVIR AL PUEBLO

A finales de la semana pasada, el Gobierno del Partido Unido del Pueblo puso la primera piedra de un importante proyecto de infraestructuras que supondrá la mejora de 9,5 millas de carretera, conectando Bullet Tree con Spanish Lookout. Esa carretera, que da servicio a cinco comunidades productivas, transformará las vidas y los medios de subsistencia de los residentes. Es mucho más que una infraestructura. Es un eslabón fundamental de la cadena del Plan Belice.

Esta semana, el Gobierno del Partido Unido del Pueblo anunció la rehabilitación completa de 16 millas de la autopista Philip Goldson, un proyecto que abordará el drenaje en comunidades críticas como Ladyville y Lord's Bank. Esto es más que una simple infraestructura. Es un proyecto transformador que beneficiará a miles de residentes de nuestras vibrantes y crecientes comunidades. Es otro eslabón fundamental de la cadena que constituye el Plan Belice.

Esta semana también, un representante del Ministerio de Desarrollo de Infraestructuras y Vivienda estuvo en programas matutinos hablando del proyecto de vivienda en curso, una iniciativa del Gobierno del Partido Unido del Pueblo que cobró vida pocos meses después de las elecciones de 2020. Este proyecto ha impactado en la vida de cientos de beliceños, cientos de familias que necesitaban una mano, no una limosna. Transformador. Un compromiso en el marco del Plan Belice.

Esta semana también se anunció que en 2024 se batió el récord de llegadas de turistas que pernoctaron en Belice. No se trata de una estadística oscura que no sirve para nada. Es una estadística transformadora. Significa que nuestros hoteles, complejos turísticos, operadores turísticos, tiendas, clubes y vendedores se están beneficiando directamente. Significa que nuestra gente tiene un trabajo significativo. Significa que este Gobierno del Partido Unido del Pueblo está haciendo lo correcto. Es el Plan Belice en acción.

Ahora hay un hermoso centro de bienvenida en San José Succotz, y otro en Seine Bight. Estos centros muestran la vibrante y asombrosa cultura de estas comunidades, y ofrecen un lugar donde los turistas y los visitantes locales pueden experimentar esa rica historia. No se trata de iniciativas improvisadas. Se trata de proyectos transformadores que ofrecen oportunidades a la gente y les dan un sentimiento de orgullo para atesorar. Esto es el Plan Belice. Forman parte del Plan Belice.

En Ciudad Belice, Mahogany Street era solo eso: una calle. Ahora es un escaparate donde los vendedores pueden vender sus productos a turistas y lugareños. Las coloridas casetas han renovado por completo ese paisaje. Puede parecer poca cosa, pero no lo es. Se trata de ofrecer oportunidades a nuestra gente. Es un proyecto transformador, un compromiso que se mantiene en el marco del Plan Belice.

Bajo un Gobierno del Partido Unido del Pueblo, por primera vez oímos hablar de los Centros de Conexión Digital. Se trata de centros situados en comunidades remotas de todo el país, donde nuestra gente puede acceder a materiales de recursos. Tienen acceso a ordenadores y dispositivos con Internet de alta velocidad. Un Centro de Conexión Digital puede parecer algo sencillo, pero es un proyecto transformador que conecta a nuestra gente con la superautopista de la información. Plan Belice en acción.

Esta semana, la nación celebró el cumpleaños del Honorable George Price. Era un hombre que creía en el servicio. Habría estado orgulloso de este gobierno del Partido Unido del Pueblo. El trabajo comenzó antes de las elecciones de 2020, con la elaboración del Plan Belice. Y ese trabajo nunca se ha detenido. Todas y cada una de las comunidades de Belice se han visto afectadas por el Plan Belice, ya sea por una nueva carretera, una nueva escuela o centro de salud, un sistema de agua mejorado o electricidad solar. Ya sea por el acceso al Seguro Nacional de Salud, a una parcela de tierra o a la educación gratuita. Este gobierno está trabajando, y vive bajo el lema - SERVIR AL PUEBLO.

RIVA BATTAM

Jail Tracy

There's something a little bizarre about Jamal's fixation on jailing his nemesis, Tracy. This week again he is begging the Court to find her in contempt of a court order and to throw her behind bars. Now to be sure, we have no real love for Tracy, but we really don't want to see her in an orange jumpsuit. That wouldn't be cutesy or demure. With every step he makes, we're more certain that Mr. Moses Barrow is not quite right in the head. We're certainly no experts in psychoses, but it's within the realm of possibility that the fellow is suffering some sort of PTSD from picking up soap in showers for the better part of ten years. We usually enjoy a good laugh at the UDP, but we draw the line at jailing sister Tracy. And from that position, we shall not be moved.

Sinking Ships

It didn't take Nostradamus to predict that the mediation between the SB UDP and the TP UDP would fizzle out before it even began. In an interview this week, Jamal told reporters that the mediation ship had sailed, and he had his UDP 31 all set to go. The thing is, whenever the sly Mr. Barrow is asked to produce those 31 candidates, he makes up some excuse or the other. We are weeks before an election, and the fellow still can't come up with candidates to fill a slate. That's a hell of a thing. Tracy's ship might have sailed for sure, but the UDP ships, SB and TP, have sunk. There's no raising that Titanic for sure.

Pastor Lue

We're not sure if anybody caught it, but on SunUp this week, the deportee Barrow made a really tasteless reference to the beheading of beloved Belmopan pastor Llewellyn Lucas, affectionately known as Pastor Lue. He was stating that the UDP did not want to appear to be running around like… and here the host interjected with, 'like a chicken without a head?' And Barrow responded, 'or a Pastor.' That was just wrong on so many different levels. There's nothing at all funny about a vicious decapitation. Yes, the persons responsible, at least the ones that were caught, are in prison for the gruesome act, but Pastor Lue had family that loved him. Have some respect for the dead, Shyne.

Big Bad John

And speaking about Pastor Lue, we watched John Saldivar doing an interview on TV this week. That guy is really special and shameless. Saldivar was best friends (some say more than that) with the man who killed Pastor Lue. And the truth is, even with a conviction, there are still a lot of questions unanswered when it comes to that particular murder. Besides that, Saldivar is a national disgrace, blacklisted by the US for being significantly corrupt. If that were not enough, he was kicked out of his own party for his Lev Dermen dealings. Remember those tranches. And yet, this man proudly states that he is loved in Belmopan and will win an election there. We'd say you have big cojones, John, but then we all remember that picture allegedly taken in Mason's bed, so we know that's not the case.

Housing in tiers

This week, Shyne bin Laden Barrow announced the UDP's bright plan for housing in Belize. We have a solution to housing, he said. We will approach housing in tiers, he said. We will have a housing industry, he said. And with all that, the man still can't say concretely what the UDP will do to provide housing to deserving Belizeans. The funniest part was when he was asked by the host on SunUp how many houses the UDP had built for Belizeans during the 13 years they were in office. Everybody knows the answer to that one – ZERO. The UDP put millions into their Ministry of Housing every year, and didn't produce one house. If Shyne really wants to talk about something he is an expert at, he should talk about life behind bars. It's clear politics isn't his thing.

CILTrust International Inc.

MELIA LIMITED # 000004346
("the Company")

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that the company **MELIA LIMITED** (the Company) registered under the Belize Companies Act 2022 commenced dissolution as follows:

a) is in dissolution
b) commenced dissolution on the 20th day of December, 2024; and
c) **John Fitgerald Gillett** whose address is Main Road, Burrell Boom Village, Belize District, Belize is the Liquidator of the Company

CILTrust International Limited
Registered Agent

BELIZE Social Investment Fund

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE
BELIZE SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND
BNTF 10 PROJECT

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) towards the cost of Eligible Sub-projects and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under this contract. Payment by CDB will be made only at the request of (GOBZ) and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject, in all respects, to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than (GOBZ) shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Project is being implemented by the Ministry of Finance through the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF). BSIF has contracted Consultants who will assist the GOBZ with delivering the Project. The Consultants have prepared designs and contract documentation and will assist in tender administration and evaluation and supervise Project activities.

BSIF now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for **Santa Cruz Village Water Supply System Rehabilitation and Expansion, Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek District, Belize, BNTF 10**

The works include, but are not limited to the following:

Scope of Works

The scope of works includes the supply and installation of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes, fittings, and accessories for transmission and distribution lines, water meters and accessories for service connections, a pumping and a chlorinating system, and the rehabilitation of the existing elevated storage tank and pumphouse.

Firms whether bidding individually or in the form of a Joint Venture, shall:
(a) be legally incorporated or otherwise organised in, and have their principal place of business in an Eligible Country;
(b) be more than fifty (50) percent beneficially owned by a citizen or citizens and/or a bona fide resident or residents of an Eligible Country, or by a body corporate or bodies meeting these requirements, as far as the ownership can be reasonably determined; and
(c) shall have no arrangement and undertake not to make any arrangement whereby the majority of the financial benefits of the contract, i.e. more than fifty (50) percent of the value of the contract, will accrue or be paid to sub-contractors or sub-consultants that are not from an Eligible Country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB. Bidders are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria detailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the *Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January, 2021), as published on CDB's website*.

Eligible bidders will be required to submit full qualification information with their bids establishing their eligibility to bid and qualification to perform the contract if the bid is accepted. Tender and qualification information are to be submitted in the English Language on the prescribed forms inserted in the Bid Documents. Submissions that do not provide the information required, or do not demonstrate the prospective contractor's ability to perform satisfactorily, will not qualify and will not be considered for further evaluation.

Qualification requirements include, inter alia:
(a) an average annual turnover (defined as certified payments received for works in progress or completed) within the last five years of at least One Million Belize Dollars (BZ$1,000,000.00),
(b) a demonstrable cash flow (including access to credit) of one hundred thousand Belize dollars (BZD $100,000.00); and
(c) experience as prime contractor in the construction assignments of similar nature, scope and complexity comparable to the proposed project activity within the last five (5) years (to comply with this requirement, works quoted should be at least 80 percent complete).

Bidding Documents may be obtained by eligible bidders from the first address below for a non-refundable fee of BZD $50.00. Requests may be made by written application including email. Written applications must be clearly marked: **"Request for Bidding Documents for the Santa Cruz Village Water Supply System Rehabilitation and Expansion, Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek District, Belize"**, along with the name, address and contact information of the bidder for which Bidding Documents are being requested. The method of payment will be by cash deposited to, or Bank transfer to the Social Investment Fund's bank account only. A request for the Social Investment Fund's banking details can be made at the address below. The Social Investment Fund is not accepting cash payment currently.

Submissions in sealed envelopes clearly marked **"Bid for the Santa Cruz Village Water Supply System Rehabilitation and Expansion, Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek District, Belize"**, must be received at the address below not later than **10:00 a.m. on 24th February 2025**. Bid opening will take place immediately after the deadline for submission at the address below in the presence of bidder representatives who choose to attend.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of BZD $5,000.00. Late bids will be **rejected**.

A Pre-bid meeting with interested eligible bidders will be held at **11:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 31st 2025** at the **El Exito Restaurant, Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek, Belize**. Bidders can participate in the meeting; whereby, queries will be addressed. Bidders are urged to attend.

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the process and reject all bids, at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected prospective bidder(s) or any obligation to inform the affected prospective bidder(s) of the grounds for the Government of Belize's action. The Government of Belize will not defray any costs incurred by any bidder in the preparation of bids.

1. Address for Correspondence
Contact: Stephanie Rodriguez
Procurement Officer
Social Investment Fund
3rd Floor, #1902 Constitution Drive
Belmopan Cayo District
Tel: 822-0239/822-0508
Email: stephanie.rodriguez@sifbelize.org
copy to: angeles.itzab@sifbelize.org and carlos.tun@sifbelize.org

NOTICE

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE TREASURY BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER 2/2025

Tenders are invited for an issue of Government of Belize Treasury Bills. The amount of the issue will be $64,391,800.00.

The Bills will be issued in electronic form only evidenced by an electronic book entry in the Central Securities Depository (CSD) of the Central Bank of Belize in multiples of $200 and will be repayable at par 91 days after issue. They will be issued on Tuesday, 21 January 2025 and will be redeemed on Tuesday, 22 April 2025.

Each tender must be for $200 or a multiple of $200 and must specify to five decimal places the amount, which is offered for each one hundred dollars face value of the Bills sought.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the auction must submit their bid to the Central Bank of Belize electronically to bids@centralbank.org.bz or at the designated drop off box no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, 17 January 2025.

The Auction in the Central Securities Depository System (CSD) will be opened from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Tuesday 21 January 2025.

Successful bidders should arrange to settle via the Automated Payment & Securities Settlement System of Belize (APSSS).

Bank: Central Bank of Belize
Account: GLICORP0402627

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all tenders in whole or in part.

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Notices are placed on Central Bank of Belize Website (www.centralbank.org.bz)

2 January 2025

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION BELIZE

APPLICATION FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS LICENCE NOTICE

The **Grand Caribe Property Management Limited** of **1 Mile North, San Pedro Town, Ambegris Caye** hereby informs the public that pursuant to the Telecommunications (Licensing Classification, Authorization, and Fee Structure) Regulations, 2020, as amended from time to time, has applied to the **Public Utilities Commission** (PUC) for the **GRANT** of A **Domestic Private Network II Licence** to provide **enhanced internal communication, security, and operational efficiency for Grand Caribe Belize and Bananas On The Beach Resorts**.

Interested parties are invited to submit comments or objections on this application within two (2) weeks of this publication. Comments or objections are to be emailed to **telecom@puc.bz**

Viewing of Application for the Telecommunications Licence:

Members of the public and all other interested parties may view the application along with associated information at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission or at the offices of **Grand Caribe Property Management Limited** at **1 Mile North, San Pedro Town, Ambegris Caye.**

CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

www.centralbank.org.bz

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Independent Financial Literacy and Digital Financial Awareness Survey

Belize City, 16 January 2025: The Central Bank of Belize (Central Bank) notifies the public that it has contracted PPF Capital Limited to conduct an independent survey to assess financial literacy and digital financial awareness in the country. This initiative is a part of the Central Bank's continued financial education and inclusion efforts.

The team from PPF Capital will reach out to members of the public across the country to gather insights that will inform the Central Bank's strategic goal of modernizing the digital financial services ecosystem.

We encourage the public to participate in this survey and assure you that responses will be treated with strict confidentiality.

For more information, please contact telephone (501) 223-6194 or info@centralbank.org.bz.

Thank you for your valuable contribution.

- ENDS -

Prime Minister
Hon. John Briceño
Remarks at the Price Family Home George Price Day 2025

First -- I am pleased to be at an event where no one should be asking me when is election.

I am happy to be here because this was one of our first campaign promises of 2020 that was fulfilled. Because of that fulfilment It gives me great pleasure to say:

Good morning and Happy George Price Day!

Those four simple words carry profound significance for all of us in Belize. Just four short years ago, my government had the immense honour and privilege of declaring January 15th—the birthday of our national hero and Father of the nation, George Price—a national holiday. That moment was a testament to the lasting legacy of a man whose vision and leadership shaped our nation.

Four years ago, as we faced many challenges, I often found myself asking, "What would George Price do?" It became a guiding question for me in navigating the complexities of leadership. As a younger politician, I had occasions to visit this very home where I sat with Mr. Price and discuss the pressing issues of the day.

His approach to leadership was simple, yet powerful. He framed even the most complex matters in ways that were easy to understand, always offering clear guidance and direction. His thoughts were minimalist, but always profound—his clarity of vision was unmatched. He had an economy of words that was ahead of his time, far before social media platforms like ever existed.

So today, let me try to practice some of that "George Price thinking" for you.

We stand here today in this beautiful historic home, surrounded by a lush yard. It's only fitting that we transform this space into a place of learning for our children—an immersive experience which brings our history to life. In the world of museums and formal education, that's the term we'd use: an immersive experience.

But beyond that, today also offers us an opportunity to reflect on the many Belizeans who stood side by side with George Price in the fight to defend our country. Let us take a moment to honour their courage and sacrifices. Looking ahead, moving forward will come with new challenges. We will need our young people to face these challenges head on, so I call on our young people to consider the "fight" ahead of them. One way to prepare is to study the life and work of George Price, our freedom fighter, whose legacy continues to inspire us.

I urge you to do so and with the guidance of our Creator to move forward boldly.

Once again, Happy George Price Day to everyone.

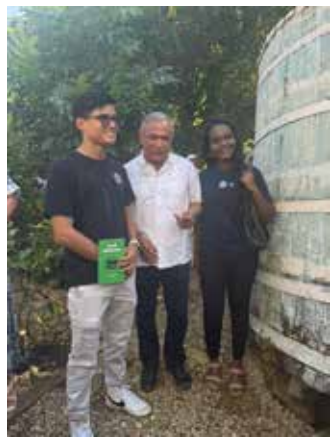
May we all carry forward the spirit of unity, resilience, and commitment to our country that he so deeply embodied.

Thank you.

HAPPY GEORGE PRICE DAY!

PM John Briceño: "Those four simple words carry profound significance for all of us in Belize. It's a call to service and to honor service. While we reflect on and honor his profound legacy, we also take the opportunity to reflect on the many Belizeans who stood side by side with George Price in the fight to defend our country.

Today, I visited his historic home, I do so with honor as I reflect on his values and his way as a guide for my own life of service to Belize."



Book Release & Botanical Garden unveiled

'GOOD BELIZEANS'

On GEORGE PRICE DAY, the National Institute of Culture and History (NICH) released a new booklet of Letters from the Premier called 'GOOD BELIZEANS'. Following the Father of the Nation's penchant for nature, a Botanical Garden has been literally planted in the backyard of the **Price Family Home**. Adding to the surreal aura of the former home of our Hero George Price, an art exhibit was placed on the fence of the home.

Hon. Francis Fonseca post "I joined Governor General Tzalam and PM Briceño in planting the first trees in the garden. We were also fortunate to have on display the refurbished famous **George Price Land Rover."**

All Belizeans have a grand addition to their cultural bucket list of places to visit in Belize. Foreign visitors are equally welcome to visit as the **Price Family Home** is literally a central pillar in the History of Belize as a sovereign nation.

Continued on page 9

Belmopan Celebrates George Price Day

Continued from page 8

On January 15 Belmopan celebrated George Price Day and thus honored of the father of the nation! In Belmopan, the Hon. Oscar Mira and Team along with the Belmopan Sports Council organized the Father of the Nation 10k Run.

Hon. Mira: "It was a spectacular success and I am humbled by the participation of so many runners! To the Belmopan Sports Council, well done! To the team that works hard, especially, Ms Angie and Mr. Armstrong, and their team, amazing work! To Trailblazers TeamMira, thank you for your great work! And especially the to all runners, TEN Kilometres is a challenge worth facing!

We honor the Rt. Hon. George Price, Father of the Nation today!

HEALING HANDS
ABROAD
VOLUNTEER SURGICAL CARE
1/25/2025 - 1/30/2025
SAN IGNACIO COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
CONSULTATIONS ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 | 4-6 PM
WESTERN REGIONAL HOSPITAL IN BELMOPAN
CONSULTATIONS ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 | 9 AM - 2 PM
SURGERIES ALL DAY, JANUARY 27 - 30 AT WESTERN REGIONAL HOSPITAL
Plastic, head & neck, and reconstructive surgery
Some procedures we do include:
• Repair of cleft lip and/or cleft palate
• Oral lesion removal
• Facial reconstruction
• Ear surgery
• Nose surgery
• Hand / arm / finger surgery
• Body lesion removal
• Scar removal
• Please ask if you have questions about anything not listed
NO COSMETIC PROCEDURES
www.healinghandsabroad.com | staff@healinghandsabroad.com

Road Safety - H.I.T. Initiative

Combatting Crime and Saving Lives on Belize's Highways

The Ministry of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries via The Belize Police Department has launched the **Highway Interdiction Team (HIT)**, a specialized police unit aimed at curbing crime and enhancing road safety nationwide. This groundbreaking initiative seeks to address pressing issues, including drug trafficking, human smuggling, and road traffic fatalities.

The HIT unit, currently consisting of 14 officers, will patrol strategic locations across the country, including northern, southern, and western regions. Plans are underway to expand its coverage by mid-2025, with the addition of new officers upon completing their training. Commissioner of Police Chester Williams emphasized the unit's dual focus: combating transnational crimes and promoting road safety.

Commissioner Williams: *"Our highways are being exploited by local and international criminals for illicit activities, such as drug and firearm trafficking,"* Williams explained. *"The HIT unit will also enforce road safety regulations, ensuring compliance with traffic laws to reduce accidents and fatalities."*

Minister of Home Affairs Kareem Musa echoed this sentiment, highlighting the devastating toll of road accidents in 2024, which claimed 115 lives. *"This team will complement existing efforts by working alongside the Department of Transport. Visible highway patrols and checkpoints will deter unsafe driving behaviors and address serious crimes,"* he stated.

The unit's equipment includes speed guns, breathalysers, and ticket books to bolster enforcement efforts. Legislative amendments are also in progress to strengthen traffic regulations and facilitate the use of this modern technology.

HIT's launch comes at a critical time, with Belize grappling with increasing road fatalities and a surge in transnational crime. By integrating crime prevention with traffic enforcement, the initiative marks a significant step toward safer highways and communities.

Citizen Security

A Shared Commitment with the U.S.

The transfer of nine vehicles, valued at approximately US$380,000, represents more than just a logistical upgrade. In an era marked by sophisticated criminal networks, the fight against transnational organized crime demands collective vigilance and strategic partnerships. Belize has found a steadfast ally in the United States, which recently reaffirmed its commitment to enhancing border security through a significant donation of vehicles to Belizean law enforcement agencies.

The donation symbolizes a partnership grounded in mutual respect and a shared goal: ensuring the safety and security of Belize's borders and citizens. The recipients of these vehicles—the Department of Border Management and Immigration Services, Belize Customs and Excise Department, and units within the Belize Police Department—play a pivotal role in combatting criminal activity.

U.S. Ambassador Michelle Kwan's remarks during the handover underscored the importance of multi-agency collaboration. She aptly noted that criminal organizations often operate with increasing sophistication, making a united front essential. This perspective resonates with Belize's strategy to enhance institutional effectiveness across its law enforcement bodies.

Similarly, Belize's Minister of Home Affairs, Hon. Kareem Musa, emphasized the broader implications of the donation. His remarks highlighted the vehicles as more than resources—they are investments in a safer, more secure Belize. He underscored the collaborative spirit and

Continued on page 11

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Quickstop Finance Center Pioneers Regional Expansion, Unlocking Access to Credit For The Caribbean Majority

Belize City, Belize – [December 13, 2024] – Quickstop Finance Center (Quickstop), a leading provider of innovative, digital-first solutions designed to expand access to credit for underserved communities, proudly announces the successful launch of its operations in Barbados — an exciting milestone in its journey toward international expansion. Quickstop was established in 2006 to address the need for Belizeans to access financing in a friendly community-banking atmosphere. Our mission is to empower communities through accessible, customer-focused financial solutions.

This expansion highlights Quickstop's commitment to growth while establishing it as the first Belizean-owned finance company to extend its operations within the Caribbean. It reflects Quickstop's dedication to advancing Belizean entrepreneurship on a broader, international scale.

"Our expansion here is a testament to our dedication to serving the Caribbean region, one community at a time. We are thrilled to bring our expertise to Barbados and look forward to creating lasting economic impact." – Shamira Young, Senior Director of Operations

Barbados Operations

The Barbados branch is strategically located within the Satjay Bridgetown Centre, ensuring exceptional accessibility and convenience for customers. Alongside its physical presence, Quickstop offers a comprehensive cyber suite of online and phone-based services, enabling customers to access financing anytime, anywhere. The company provides a range of financial solutions, including short-term and installment loans, tailored to meet the diverse needs of individuals seeking fast and reliable financing when they need it the most.

For more information about CRNCY Group, visit www.crncy-group.com QR Code

CRNCY Group is dedicated to unlocking fast, accessible credit for everyone where traditional systems fail to keep pace with modern needs. The group has 120 employees and has served over 40,000 customers.

Media Contact:
Marina Pacheco, Marketing Lead
mpacheco@crncy-group.com
(501) 223-0307

A Shared Commitment with the U.S.

Continued from page 10

commitment of all stakeholders to advance the nation's criminal justice system.

While the vehicles will undoubtedly improve operational capacity for patrols, interception, and interdiction, the donation also serves as a testament to the strength of Belize-U.S. relations. This partnership continues to evolve, driven by shared values and goals. For Belize, this is not just about bolstering mobility; it is about building resilience against threats that transcend borders.

The broader narrative here is clear: addressing modern security challenges requires not only resources but also the will to foster collaboration across agencies and nations. Belize's proactive engagement with the U.S. Embassy, particularly through initiatives like the Bureau of International Narcotics & Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), reflects a strategic approach to safeguarding its sovereignty and citizenry.

As the vehicles are deployed, their impact will be closely watched. Success will not only be measured by the number of criminal actors intercepted but also by the strengthened trust between Belize and the United States. This partnership serves as a model for how nations can work together to confront shared challenges, proving that unity and mutual support are key to navigating an increasingly complex global security landscape.

ORANGE WALK CENTRAL PRESENTS

YOUR VOTE YOUR VOICE

Flyer Competition

Get Creative. Inspire Change. Lead the Future.

Design a flyer that encourages youths to register to vote and take control of their future. Your voice matters—now let your creativity speak!

Prizes

1st Prize: $500
2nd Prize: $300
3rd Prize: $200

Winning flyers will be printed and displayed across Orange Walk and featured in the official voter registration campaign. This is your chance to drive change and be part of something big!

Rules and Guidelines

Eligibility: - Open to Youths from Orange Walk only.

Theme: - Designs must encourage youth voter registration and align with the theme "Your Vote, Your Voice".

Submission Limit: You can submit multiple designs—there's no limit to your creativity!

Flyers will be posted on social media—the more likes and shares your design receives, the more points you earn.

Official Colors and Logos:
Use brand colors and logos from the provided drive link in your designs.

Submit Entries to office@pupowcentral.com
Please include Full Name and Contact #

All entries must be submitted by Jan 24th 2025

By participating in this competition, you grant Orange Walk Central (OWC) the right to use, reproduce, and distribute your flyer design for promotional and campaign purposes without further compensation. OWC retains the right to modify winning designs for official use.

STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of GLENNFORD ALVIN GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD ALVIN GODFREY a.k.a ANTHONY GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD ANTHONY GODFREY Deceased, of #6623 Mahogany Street, Belize City, Belize.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 36 of the Administration of Estates Act, Chapter 197 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020, that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands upon or against the Estate of **GLENNFORD ALVIN GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD ALVIN GODFREY a.k.a ANTHONY GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD ANTHONY GODFREY** deceased, of **#6623 MAHOGANY STREET, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE** who died on the 17th day of September, 2021 in whose estate a Grant of Administration has been granted to **KARIM GIOVANNI GODFREY,** the lawful administrator of **#100 Bristlecone Street, Western Pines, Western Paradise Village, 8 Miles George Price Highway, Belize District,** on or before the expiration of three months from the first publication hereof **AND NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN** that at the expiration of the said three months the said **KARIM GIOVANNI GODFREY** shall proceed to distribute the assets of the said, **GLENNFORD ALVIN GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD ALVIN GODFREY a.k.a ANTHONY GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD ANTHONY GODFREY** deceased, amongst the beneficiaries entitled thereto, having regard only to claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice.

DATED this 10th day of December 2024

GLENN D. GODFREY & COMPANY LLP
Attorneys-at-Law for
KARIM GODFREY
Administrator of the Estate of GLENNFORD ALVIN GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD ALVIN GODFREY a.k.a ANTHONY GODFREY a.k.a GLENFORD ANTHONY GODFREY

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TREN MAYA Belize makes official proposal to extend Maya Train

(Riviera Maya News – January 12, 2025)

The Prime Minister of Belize says his government has requested Mexico expand the Maya Train across the Hondo River and into Belize. Belize Prime Minister Johnny Briceño says the request has been formally made to President Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo.

According to Briceño, his government would like to see the train expanded in two stages that would have the Tren Maya railway project reach the border with Guatemala. The proposal, he said, seeks to strengthen regional integration and facilitate economic and tourism exchange.

Briceño explained that the first stage would include the construction of just over seven kilometers of track connecting the south of Quintana Roo with Belize. The second stage proposes the extension of the railway to the border with Guatemala, passing through Tikal, one of the main tourist attractions in the region, stressing the importance of this project for regional development.

Briceño assured that in a first meeting he had with Sheinbaum, she was willing to follow up on the two current proposals being offered by the Belize government after talks that began with the previous administration of López Obrador in 2022.

"Last year I sent a letter to the President. When I met her in October in Mexico City, we talked about the Maya Train and she continues to support this plan. She assured me that she wants to continue the work that President López Obrador started.

The letter was to follow up on the two proposals we have, the first is that we can bring the train to the entrance of Belize from Chetumal, and the second is that it can go from here in Belize to Guatemala City. The studies still need to be done, but I am very hopeful that this can be consolidated," he explained.

"This would bring many benefits to Belize. It could open a new market for tourists since those who come to Cancun are often from Europe and we don't have many visitors from Europe, but rather they are Americans. With the Maya Train, it would be much easier for them to travel to Belize.

Also in trade, Mexico is a country from which we import millions of dollars, so with the train moving products from Mexico to Belize would be easier and also moving our products not only to Mexico, but to the United States and Canada, so it is an opportunity for everyone to win," he said.

The proposal is awaiting an official response from President Sheinbaum. In 2023, Governor Mara Lezama Espinoza broached the topic of a Tren Maya extension into Belize as a proposal once Mexico's seven Tren Maya sections were complete. (riviera-maya-news.com)

The Tren Maya as has been seen by visitors of Belize that travel to Chetumal and other Yucatan areas is an engineering feat that can increasingly benefit Mexico and the region once it is expanded southwards. The bridge between Mexico and Central America would have been forged and the area can rival other world economic powers given the access to greater populations. Belizean companies are already looking at how the ports can benefit with the increase trade that would occur once the train's expansion is furthered into Belize.

BELIZE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES LTD.
Fi WE Boledol

National Health Insurance
"NHI, an enabler of quality health and wellness for ALL"

Did You Know?

Profits made from the Belize Government Lotteries LTD lottery games are used to support the National Health Insurance (NHI).

For More Information:

Visit The National Health Insurance Website

WWW.NHI.BZ

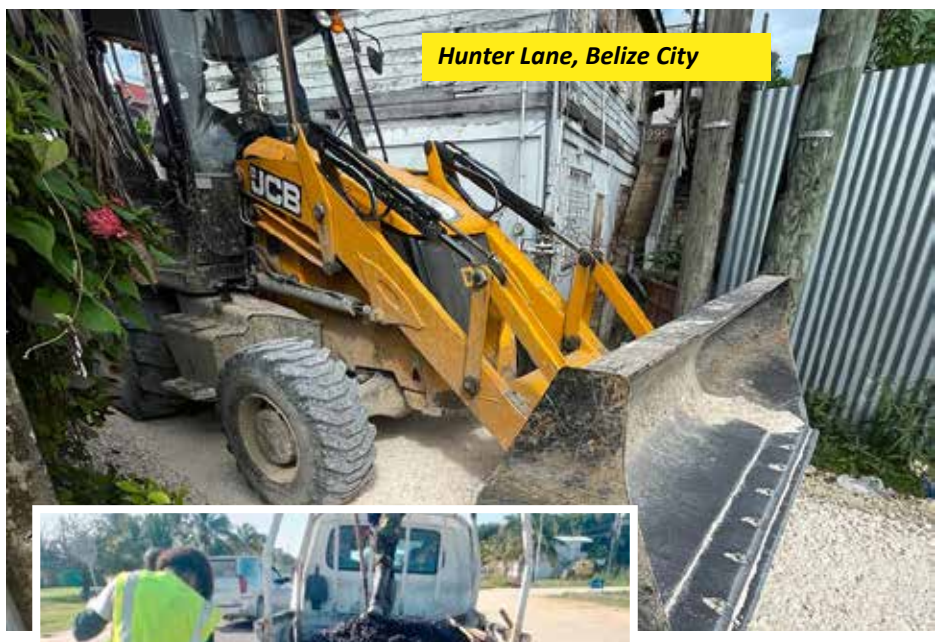
#planBelize Infrastructure:

STAY PAN TRACK IN 2025

Ground breaking of Rd. from Bullet Tree to Spanish Lookout

Efforts of Cayo Northeast's Landy Habet, MIDH's Julius Espat, Cayo North's Michel Espat

Hon. Julius Espat, MIDH all over Belize



Hunter Lane, Belize City

George Price Highway

SUGAR ROADs of Belize

Arenal

Douglas

Punta Gorda streets

Navah

Posito

Toledo – Culvert at Sunday Wood/Corazon Creek

'The Work Continues'

PUP & #planBelize

STAY PAN TRACK IN 2025

A Happy George Price Day 2025

PM John Briceño: Participating in Ceremonies

Hon. Fonseca displaying the George Price Historic Land Rover

PM greets the people

Art Exhibit on the Fence at the George Price home

PM greets the people

Attendees

Northern Caucus meets in San Estevan Village

Another exercise of unity at the quarterly meeting

PM Briceño at Unveiling of Ghandi statue at UB

Hon. Jose Mai and Team at Ministry of Agriculture

Fly over the Toledo District, anti-screwworm efforts

Home Affairs Min. Kareem Musa Accepting Vehicle Donation from US Ambassador Kwan

Police, Customs and Immigration department enhanced service to the people

Standard Bearer David Castillo, Corozal North

Consulting with the People

Hon. Osmond Martinez, Toledo East and Oscar Requena Toledo West

Economic Activity: Tour at Naledo Belize Ltd.

'The Work Continues'

SIGNING - MoHW – UB: Affiliation Agreement to Enhance Clinical Training for Students

The University of Belize (UB) and the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoHW) signed a historic Affiliation Agreement to enhance clinical training for students from the UB School of Medicine and other health-related disciplines, including nursing, pharmacy, midwifery, social work, and medical laboratory science!

The partnership facilitates hands-on learning experiences through clinical clerkships, practicums, and internships at MoHW-operated facilities such as the Western Regional Hospital and Belmopan Polyclinic II. This collaboration supports faculty appointments for clinical educators, provides access to hospital facilities, and ensures compliance with national and international accreditation standards.

UB President Dr. Vincent Palacio and MoHW CEO Dr. Julio Sabido highlighted the significance of this agreement in advancing healthcare education and improving patient care in Belize.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1ST, 2025...
2,851 WORKERS WHO EARN LESS THAN $29,000 PER YEAR WILL PAY NO INCOME TAX!
ALSO... 733 EMPLOYED PERSONS WILL BENEFIT FROM ADJUSTMENTS TO THE INCOME TAX LAWS TO ENSURE THAT THEY TAKE HOME MORE PAY WHEN THEIR SALARIES INCREASE.
THAT'S OVER 3.3 MILLION DOLLARS MORE IN NET TAKE-HOME PAY FOR 3,500 HARD-WORKING BELIZEANS!
Hon. John Briceño, Prime Minister
State of the Nation Address 2024
Government Press Office

LETTER TO THE Editor

Record-Breaking Tourism Numbers, Proud!

Dear Editor,

As a proud Belizean, I am filled with gratitude and optimism seeing the transformative progress our nation has achieved under the leadership of the Briceño Administration and its PlanBelize agenda. One shining example of this success is the record-breaking year for Belize's tourism industry in 2024. Surpassing pre-pandemic levels with over 562,000 overnight visitors, this milestone underscores the dedication of our government, tourism stakeholders, and the hardworking people of Belize.

This accomplishment is part of a broader narrative of positive change. From expanding free education to unprecedented investments in healthcare, infrastructure, and the economy, Belize is heading in the right direction. The GST-free days in December demonstrated the government's commitment to easing the financial burden on citizens. Additionally, the Blue Bond debt restructuring showcased innovative leadership on the global stage.

PlanBelize is not just a vision; it is a roadmap that is delivering real results for Belizeans. As we look toward the future, let us continue to support this government that prioritizes progress, sustainability, and prosperity for all.

Our nation is moving forward, and as a proud Belizean, I stand firmly behind the PUP. Together, we are building a brighter future.

Sincerely,
Tim Canton

PRESS RELEASE

GAMING CONTROL BOARD NOTICE

Belmopan, January 10th, 2025

The Gaming Control Board (GCB) would like to inform all gaming machine license holders (Gaming Establishments) that received approval for the period April 1st 2024, - March 31st 2025, to submit their renewal applications for the upcoming period April 1st 2025, - March 31st 2026.
Licensees wishing to renew their licenses are asked to submit their original application forms to the Ministry of Investment, situated at No.03 Mango Street in Belmopan on or before Friday, January 31st 2025. Application forms are available at the Ministry.

We can be contacted via:

Telephone: (501) 880-4728 or 880-4729
Email: belizeinvestment@invest.gov.bz
Facebook: Investment, Policy & Compliance Unit

END

More Roads to Prosperity

Historic Public-Private Partnership Paving of Bullet Tree Rd. to Spanish Lookout

Today marked a significant milestone as the Government of Belize and Hon. Orlando Habet, held a groundbreaking ceremony for the historic road pavement project connecting Duck Run One to Bullet Tree Village. Joining in this momentous occasion were Hon. Julius Espat, Hon. Michel Chebat, government officials, and excited residents from Santa Familia Village and neighbouring communities.

This ambitious road project spans approximately 15.4 kilometers (9.5 miles) and will link the communities of Bullet Tree, Santa Familia, Billy White, Duck Run 1, and Spanish Lookout in the Cayo Northeast Constituency. Once completed, this upgraded road will not only serve as a vital highway in the Cayo District but will also empower farmers and workers, driving economic growth and enhancing connectivity for all.

With an investment of nearly 10 million dollars, this initiative is made possible through a collaborative public-private partnership between the Government of Belize and the Spanish Lookout Community. The anticipated completion timeframe is 18 months, and we can't wait to see the positive impact it will have on communities of Cayo Northeast! Together, we are paving the way for a brighter future!(post)

The MIDH is proud to be the implementing agency in the major project to pave this road from Bullet Tree to Spanish Lookout, a 9.5-mile stretch of road that will connect 5 productive communities and will benefit our people for many years to come. The MIDH and the Hon. Julius Espat are grateful for the relationship with the Spanish Lookout community, which has been a partner with the MIDH on various major infrastructure initiatives. The MIDH remains committed to ensure value for money and integrity in everything they do.

Haulover to Santa Familia Cayo

Ever since the NEW Haulover Bridge was inaugurated in middle 2024, the MIDH had announced that still intact portions of the Old Haulover will be taken to Cayo. This was to benefit directly the Santa Familia village and area as access to San Ignacio Town would be improved dramatically via Branchmouth area of the Belize River. Well now, those that travel the Philip Goldson Highway

Continued on page 18

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES

Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District; Belmopan City, Cayo District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties. Sales running currently and will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties are sold.

1. Parcel No. 4138 Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ann Gabourel	4	4138
The freehold property of Mr. Elmer Jason Dominguez.		

2. Lot No. 14 Bladen Street Belmopan City, Cayo District:

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land situated in the City of Belmopan, Cayo District. The freehold property of Ms. Ruby Pascascio and Jesse Garcia

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES

Consejo Village, Corozal District; Dangriga; Stann Creek District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Atlantic Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties. Sales currently running and will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties are sold.

1. Parcel No. 418 Consejo Village, Corozal District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Consejo	1	418
Freehold property of Mr. Antonio Gutierrez.		

2. Parcel Nos. 440 Dangriga, Stann Creek District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Dangriga South	31	44
Freehold property of Messrs. Dangriga Cable Vision.		

3. Parcel Nos. 618 Dangriga, Stann Creek District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Dangriga South	31	61
Freehold property of Messrs. Dangriga Cable Vision.		

4. Lagoon Front Parcel No. 2115 Near Mile 13 Placencia Road, Placencia Residences, Stann Creek District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	2115
Freehold property of Mr. Dustin Bowen & Mrs. Jodie Bowen.		

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

Haulover to Santa Familia Cayo

Continued from page 17

have witnessed these portions being salvaged by an MIDH bent of saving the Belizean people's money. There is no wastage and there is regionally acclaimed levels of saving while building modern climate resilient infrastructure—the planBelize way.

These portions of the old Haulover Creek Bridge are heading to the area by San Ignacio town as mentioned. At the ground breaking for the paving of the Bullet Tree Road to Spanish Lookout, Hon. Habet reminded his Cayo Northeast and Belize of that eventuality. MIDH's Hon. Julius Espat confirmed that the portions of the bridge are on its way to change lives of people in the Santa Familia – Branch Mouth areas.

Hon. Espat (Cayo South) – "I must backup Landy when he mentioned the bridge. We have now dismantled the section of the bridge that will be coming here and it will come. So, the bridge is now not in place at Haulover. The contractor has dismantled it and has it in his compound. They will have to do some refurbishing and that is where the chief engineer takes over with all the technical expertise to design the permanent concrete structure to hold the bridge. So you will have the bridge. There is another bridge that we are in discussion with the Spanish Lookout community that if these guys do their work properly and myself and we form government again, we will be looking at the other bridge here in the Cayo district that is very important to us."

The past corrupt Barrow government saw equipment being "borrowed" by Ministers for their own farms and construction. The Belizean people will never forget the construction of highways done on the cheap while signing top-dollar contracts. The Belizean people will never forget the campaign dollars that were most likely siphoned via infrastructure in the Barrow government. If the UDP lands department was a hotbed of corruption, then the UDP's BIL and UDP Ministry of Works was a cesspool of corruption. The name Imer was tantamount to UDP corruption in the name of campaign funding. It was all under the name of Barrow's legal vs factual guilt. The planBelize team has transformed all of that to the benefit of Belizeans. The proof of this pudding is in travelling the country. Don't just focus on a small 100 feet or so of the Coastal Plain Highway(7's fake news); Let's focus on the hundreds of miles of highways hot mixed or paved or cemented, Sugar Roads upkept seasonally, new roads cut open, UDP cheap infrastructure fixed (e.g. UDP-built revetment walls on the curves near the Haulover), New Haulover, Major Work on the Hawkesworth in Cayo, Small bridges everywhere, and Roads inside of Villages, Towns and Cities. The latter means that the MIDH went way beyond its call but if you ask Julius Espat, the MIDH is responsible for all infrastructure in Belize.

Cementing Street in Placencia

Work in Placencia is well underway. This is the cementing of the entire stretch from Atlantic Bank to the pier. The MIDH appreciates the understanding and support of residents who know that what we're doing will be of major benefit to them and to the entire community.

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

IT Business Support Specialist
Relaunch
PROCUREMENT UNIT - MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(INDIVIDUAL)

Institution:	Ministry of Finance
Country:	Belize
Project:	Strengthening Public Expenditure Management in Belize (SPEM)
Loan No.:	5353/OC-BL
Process ID:	BL-L1038-P00070
Deadline:	**January 29, 2025,** 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)

The Ministry of Finance hereby invites eligible individuals to apply for the contractual position of IT Business Support Specialist, in the Procurement Unit of the Ministry of Finance, Belize.

The Government of Belize is currently implementing the Strengthening Public Expenditure Management in Belize Project, through loan funds received from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) that will promote the fiscal sustainability of Belize by enhancing different aspects of Financial Management, Procurement, Technological Infrastructure and Institutional Capacity in the Government of Belize.

One Subcomponent of the Project is assisting the Procurement Unit in the Ministry of Finance to expand and diversify its institutional capacity to enable the Unit to effectively undertake its mandate and daily operations. The project is supporting the filling of new key positions under this Unit, including this advertised position of **IT Business Support Specialist**.

The **IT Business Support Specialist** will be responsible for ensuring the seamless integration and effective management of newly procured IT systems within the Procurement Unit. This role includes operational support and software maintenance responsibilities to ensure the effective implementation of the Unit's information technology initiatives. The role entails developing specifications for new software acquisition, ensuring system compatibility and security, and developing a training plan and change management plan for new systems to facilitate comprehensive user understanding and adaptation.

Further details on this position, including the required application template and full Terms of Reference, can be obtained online at https://mof.gov.bz/procurement-opportunities/ or by scanning the QR Code below. Interested individuals must provide information demonstrating that they have met the required qualifications and possess relevant experience to perform the services.

The selection for this contractual position will be in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2350-15 and the Government of Belize procurement procedures and best practices. The Consultants will be selected based on qualifications.

Qualified individuals should submit one (1) pdf file in English, using the required template, via e-mail to tjoseph.ceu@cpu.mof.gov.bz or two (2) hardcopies of their application to the address below:

Trudy Joseph
Procurement Specialist
Central Executing Unit
Ministry of Finance
Sir Edney Cain Building
Tel: 501-822-4106
tjoseph.ceu@cpu.mof.gov.bz

Scan Here For More Details:

(Ref: IT Business Support Specialist (BL-L1038)- Your name)

The Deadline for submission is no later than **Wednesday, January 29, 2025,** by 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time). Late submissions will not be accepted.

Anti-Screwworm Fight

January 16, 2025 - Minister and technicians hard at work inspecting animals, injecting medicines, applying antiseptic spray to wounds and spraying animals to prevent pests and parasites.

Minister Jose Mai has done much from diplomacy, flyover, workshops to ensure that Belize's cattle and other animal remain healthy. This health includes the Belizean economy.

Belize National Prayer

Almighty and Eternal God, who through Jesus Christ has revealed Your Glory to all nations, please protect and preserve Belize, our beloved country.

God of might, wisdom and justice, please assist our Belizean government and people with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude.

Let Your light of Your divine wisdom direct their plans and endeavours so that with Your help we may attain our just objectives.

With Your guidance, may all our endeavours tend to peace, social justice, liberty, national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge.

We pray, O God of Mercy, for all of us that we may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the

observance of Your most holy law, that we may be preserved in union and, in that peace which the world itself cannot give.

And, after enjoying the blessings of this life, please admit us, dear Lord, to that eternal reward that You have prepared for those who love You.

Amen.

CONGRATULATIONS

Muffles College Gets Gold in Caribbean Robotics

Muffles College out of Orange Walk Town topped the Caribbean Science Olympiads in ROBOTICS by capturing GOLD today!! This is significant win for the team of four students that competed with many Caribbean territories including Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago, St. Lucia, Grenada and Guyana.

Congrats to the project members of MILPA: Kian Carrillo, Carlos Blanco, Jair Urbina, Mia Yam

Team Coaches: Cecilio Garcia, Shamira Cambranes and Carim Ramirez

Official ceremonies featuring both wins for Belize captured by Muffles College will take place on Sunday, via Zoom.

Silver medal in Coding

Gold medal in Robotics

More details will be shared on this remarkable achievement by Muffles College on their Facebook page.

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES

29 + 1 PARCELS OF LAND SITUATE WITHIN THE SEASIDE SUBDIVISION ORCHID BAY, COROZAL DISTRICT

BY ORDER of the Chargees, Messrs. Great Land Lender LLC, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties. Sales running currently and will expire fortnightly on the website until these properties are sold.

1. ***29 PARCELS OF LAND:***

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
Warree Bight/Freshwater Creek	3	1065 1092 1093 1094 1097 1098 1099 1100 1106 1111 1126 1143 1145 1152 1153 1154 1155 1156 1210 1211 1212 1623 1624 1625 1626 1629 1631 1635 1636

(Being 29 properties at various stages of development situate within the seaside subdivision called Orchid Bay situate in the Corozal District of Belize, the freehold properties of Messrs. Point Alegre Development Limited)

2. ***PARCEL NO. 1090:***

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Warree Bight/Freshwater Creek	3	1090
The freehold property of Messrs. Point Alegre Development Ltd.		

(Being an elevated concrete dwelling house [1,485 sq. ft.] situate within the seaside sud-division known as Orchid Bay situate in the Corozal District of Belize, the freehold property of Messrs. Point Alegre Development Limited

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

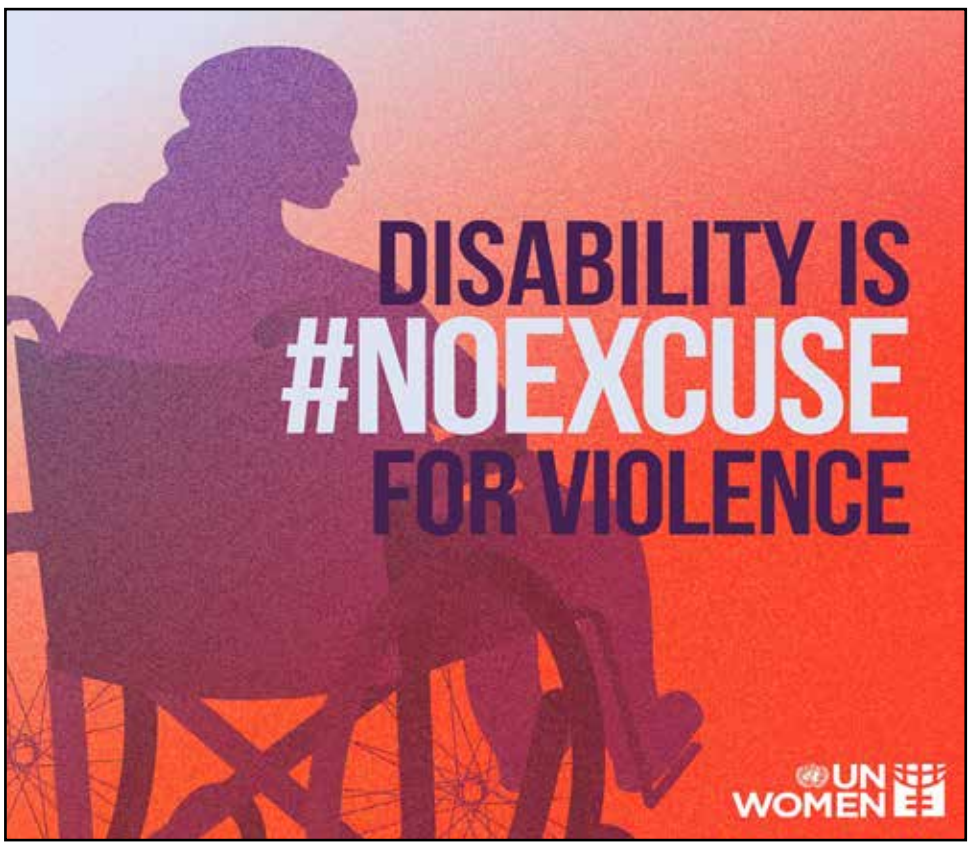
HON GILROY USHER DELIVERS ANOTHER STARTER HOME IN PORT

On Friday January 10 Miss Josephine Bethran of #3717 Central Blvd was filled great joy as Hon. Gilroy Usher Area Representative for Port Loyola delivered the key to her for new starter home that includes a ramp to enable the senior citizen to make full use of her new home. Miss Josephine became in need of a starter, when Hurricane Lisa completely destroyed her two flat wooden house.

In speaking at the event Miss Bethran expressed sincere thanks to here Area Representative Hon. Gilroy Usher, the entire staff of MIDH including Miss Marisa Alamilla Project Coordinator for Starter Homes with MIDH, the contractor, and the pastor who blessed her new home.

The house is complete with electrical wiring, bathroom facilities, portion, and ceiling Miss Bethran on her family only need to pay the manageable amount of $25.00 for her new home until is is paid off in full.

Area Representative Hon. Gilroy Usher, remains committed to making other starter homes available for deserving residents of Port Loyola as soon as possible.



BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES & VEHICLES

Countrywide

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties and vehicles. Sales currently running and will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties and vehicles are sold.

1. Parcel No. 900 Consejo, Corozal District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Consejo	1	900
The freehold property of Mr. Narciso Rodriguez.		

2. Parcel No. 32/1 Chan Pine Ridge Village, Orange Walk District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Chan Pine Ridge	4	32/1
The leasehold property of Mr. German Tzul.		

3. Parcel No. 3404 Trail Farm Village, Orange Walk District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ann Gabourel	4	3404
The freehold property of Mr. Enop Martinez.		

4. Parcel No. 645 Calcutta Village, Corozal District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Carolina/Calcutta Village	1	645
The freehold property of Mr. Nigel Sanker and Ms. Matilda Shal.		

5. Parcel No. 1989 Corner Ceasar Ridge and Kraal Roads, Port Loyola, Belize City, Belize District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Port/ Loyolaville	45	1989
Freehold property of Mr. David Anderson and Ms. Samantha McCord.		

6. Parcel No. 3654 Scalop Avenue (off Coney Drive, Near Body 2000), Belize City, Belize District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Caribbean Shores	16	3654
Freehold property of Mr. Carlos and Ms. Chrisanta Tillett		

7.Lot No. 162 Pomona Village, Stann Creek District:

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land situated in Pomona Village, Stann Creek District. The freehold property of Mr. Manuel Esquivel.

VEHICLES

2008 Ford Escape

2012 Chevrolet Equinox

2018 Chevrolet Equinox

2011 Chevrolet Cruze

2010 Jeep Liberty

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

Elevating Health and Wellbeing of Belizeans:

Minister-Managers-Administrators

January 13, 2025 - The Minister of Health & Wellness, Hon. Kevin Bernard had the privilege of meeting with the dedicated Regional Health Managers, Deputy Regional Managers, and Hospital Administrators to embark on a new year. Together, the group reflected on achievements and challenges from the past year, reaffirming mutual commitments to continue delivering exceptional health and wellness services.

In his opening remarks, the Minister mentioned that this gathering was more than just a meeting; it was a call to action. *"I encourage you all to engage in open and honest dialogue, fostering an environment where every voice is heard. I emphasize the importance of thinking and acting like eagles—not ducks—encouraging visionary leadership, courage, innovation, team empowerment, and resilience."*

Moving forward, the Minister reminded the regional teams that the focus would be on turning conversations into commitments and implementing solutions that transform lives. *"Together, we will elevate the health and well-being of every citizen we serve."*

The meeting ended with the minister expressing his gratitude to all who participated and contributed to the vital discussion held. *"Let's soar to new heights in 2025!"* (post)

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that **Evan Young** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Thirties Enterprise"** located at #186 North Front Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Grand Bay Resort Ltd.** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Grand Resort & Residences (Pool Side)"** located at # 5031 P.G. HWY., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **H20 Holdings Limited** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"Agua Magica"** located at 2 ½ Miles P.G. HWY., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Paula Montoya** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"A & L Grocery Store"** located at # 37 Water Lane, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Melonie Mejia** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Mel's One Stop Shop"** located in Santana Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Kim Chee** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Brad's Store"** located at # 2 Farmer's Market, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Sheila Flowers** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Castleton Entertainment Park"** located in Burrell Boom Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Russell Moody** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"M & M"** located in Sandhill Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Zhiqiang Huang** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Everyday Supermarket"** located at 15 ¾ Miles G.P. HWY., Hattieville Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Esther Hegar** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Sun Harden Restaurant"** located at P.G.I.A., Ladyville Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Zhihao Dai** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"BP 2 Store"** located at # 3267 Albert Hoy Avenue, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Yolenny Del R. Melendez** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Yor's Backyard & Grill"** located at # 24 Riverside Street, Benque Viejo del Carmen, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Guosong Deng** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Day & Night Hotel Belmopan"** located at # 7285 G.P. HWY., Belmopan City, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Xiaocai Wu** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"No #1 Double G. Store"** located in Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Jun Qiang Li** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Philin Store"** located in San Jose Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Shao Qiang Kang** is applying for a **Convenience Store Liquor License** to be operated at **"Stop & Go Ltd."** located in Tower Hill, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Yong Mei Qin is app**lying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Bell's Restaurant"** located in San Jose Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Midnight 501 Company Ltd.** is applying for a **Night Club Liquor License** to be operated at **"Midnight 501 Company Ltd."** located at # 160 Newtown Barracks, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Midnight 501 Company Ltd.** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Midnight 501 Company Ltd."** located at # 160 Newtown Barracks, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Merary Acosta/Ernesto Acosta** are applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Acosta's Shop"** located at # 26 Contribo Road, Lord's Bank Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

UNVEILING

Life-sized statue of Mahatma Gandhi at the UB

Mahatma Gandhi: A Symbol of Peace and Learning at the University of Belize

January 11, 2025 - The unveiling of a life-sized statue of Mahatma Gandhi at the University of Belize (UB) marked a moment of profound cultural and educational significance. Donated by the High Commission of India, the statue now graces UB's Belmopan campus as a beacon of peace, tolerance, and nonviolence—values Gandhi championed throughout his life.

This event underscores the enduring relevance of Gandhi's philosophy, especially in a world often divided by conflict and discord. The placement of the statue at UB is not coincidental; it reflects the university's role as a crucible of learning and moral development. Dr. Pankaj Sharma, High Commissioner of India to Belize, aptly articulated this connection, noting Gandhi's belief in education as a transformative tool to develop character, instill moral values, and empower individuals for societal betterment.

The statue's unveiling, attended by Prime Minister John Briceño and UB President Dr. Vincent Palacio, was more than a ceremonial act—it was a powerful affirmation of shared values. Prime Minister Briceño drew parallels between Gandhi and Belize's own national hero, George Price, highlighting their shared humility, spiritual strength, and unwavering determination to lead their nations toward independence.

Dr. Palacio further emphasized how the statue's presence resonates with UB's mission. It serves not just as a tribute to Gandhi's legacy but as a daily reminder for students and educators to pursue truth, harmony, and equality. In his words, the statue aligns seamlessly with UB's commitment to nurturing critical thinking, compassion, and leadership among its students.

Adding a living symbol to the occasion, a Ficus Religiosa tree was planted alongside the statue. Known as the Bodhi tree, under which Buddha attained enlightenment, this gesture signifies the growth of an environment rooted in knowledge and enlightenment—a fitting complement to the ideals Gandhi espoused.

The donation reflects the strengthening cultural ties between Belize and India, demonstrating how global partnerships can foster mutual understanding and shared progress. More importantly, it invites reflection on how Gandhi's principles of nonviolence and education can inspire a new generation of leaders committed to building a just and equitable society.

In a world often fraught with division, the statue stands as a testament to the enduring power of peace and knowledge. It challenges all who pass by to embody these values, ensuring that Gandhi's legacy continues to inspire meaningful change in Belize and beyond.(release)

NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER REGULATION 7(1) OF THE FISCAL INCENTIVES REGULATIONS CHAPTER 54 OF THE LAWS OF BELIZE, Edition 2023

It is hereby notified for general information that the principals of **JJ Aviation Limited** (hereinafter called 'the Company') submitted an application for an Approved Enterprise Order under the Fiscal Incentives Act, Chapter 54 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2023.

Any person who objects to the making of an Order is hereby invited to,

a. submit notice in writing of his/her objections
b. state the grounds on which he/she relies in support thereof,

to the Executive Director, Belize Trade and Investment Development Service, on or before January 23rd , 2025, to executive.director@beltraide.bz or call at 880-3737.

1. The Company is located at the Phillip Goldson International Airport that intends to establish an air transport operation to service Cancun, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. If the application is approved the company shall be an enterprise under the Fiscal Incentives Act.

2. The application is in relation to:

- Specialized Tools
- Fixtures & Fittings
- Spare Parts
- Office Equipment & Appliances
- Utility and Transport Vehicles
- exemption from duties.

NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER REGULATION 7(1) OF THE FISCAL INCENTIVES REGULATIONS CHAPTER 54 OF THE LAWS OF BELIZE, Edition 2023

It is hereby notified for general information that the principals of **New Deal Limited** (hereinafter called 'the Company') submitted an application for an Approved Enterprise Order under the Fiscal Incentives Act, Chapter 54 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2023.

Any person who objects to the making of an Order is hereby invited to,

a. submit notice in writing of his/her objections
b. state the grounds on which he/she relies in support thereof,

to the Executive Director, Belize Trade and Investment Development Service, on or before January 23rd , 2025, to executive.director@beltraide.bz or call at 880-3737.

1. The Company is located at Mile 5 on the Phillip Goldson Highway, Belize District that will construct a five-story hotel consisting of seventy-seven units along with other amenities including a gym, spa and wellness center, swimming pool, restaurant and bar. If the application is approved the company shall be an enterprise under the Fiscal Incentives Act.

2. The application is in relation to:

- Building Materials & Supplies
- Specialized Tools
- Plant, Machinery & Equipment
- Office Equipment & Appliances
- Fixtures & Fittings
- Marine Crafts
- Utility and Transport Vehicles
- exemption from duties.

Enhancing Global Market Position
Engaging with Key Belizean Industries

The Minister of State for Foreign Trade, Hon. Dr. Osmond Martinez, and officials from the Directorate General for Foreign Trade visited key industries in Punta Gorda on Friday, January 10th. The visit aimed to strengthen Belize's position in global markets through targeted support and collaboration with local enterprises.

The delegation began their tour at Naledo Belize Ltd., a leading name in Belize's food and beverage industry, renowned for its Turmeric Whole-root Paste, spices, and snacks. Recognized for both local and international success, Naledo is exploring ways to scale its production and diversify its product range to reach new markets. During the visit, Minister Martinez highlighted the importance of export development in maintaining the global competitiveness of Belizean products. The Directorate General for Foreign Trade reaffirmed its commitment to facilitating Naledo's growth through targeted trade initiatives and capacity-building efforts.

The delegation also visited Copal Tree Lodge and the Copalli Rum Distillery, a leading producer in Belize's premium rum industry. The distillery, known for its commitment to sustainable practices and high-quality organic ingredients, is poised to expand its international footprint in the United States, Europe, and the Caribbean. Discussions focused on strategies to boost global market access, enhance tourism-related offerings, and foster product innovation. Minister Martinez commended the distillery's dedication to sustainability and emphasized the need to balance growth with environmental responsibility.

The visit concluded at the Maya House of Cacao and Chocolate Museum, where Minister Martinez was joined by Hon. Oscar Requena, Minister of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government. The delegation met with the Toledo Cacao Growers Association (TCGA) to address challenges and opportunities in Belize's cacao industry. Discussions highlighted the TCGA's CDB-funded project aimed at strengthening Belize's position in the global cocoa-chocolate value chain. Key topics included climate change impacts, fire damage, and rising international competition. The association emphasized the importance of infrastructure development, land title security, and sustained funding for initiatives such as the National Cacao Committee and climate adaptation programs.

Ministers Martinez and Requena and the Directorate General for Foreign Trade reaffirmed their commitment to supporting Belizean industries across sectors. These engagements reflect the government's ongoing efforts to ensure Belizean businesses remain competitive, sustainable, and globally recognized. (release)

This is a part of the total effort by the planBelize team to make Belize an economic power with the citizens of Belize benefitting at all levels. The Cacao Industry worldwide has seen a surge in prices recently. Of course, the prices of the individual chocolate has to be tempered but the market forces knows that. It all leads to greater profits and a better livelihood for the traditional farmer and the food and beverage industry.

CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Annual Balance of Payments Survey

Belize City , 6 January 2025: Each year the Central Bank of Belize collects data for the compilation of Belize's Balance of Payments. In order to carry out this exercise for 2024 and to make accurate revisions to our 2023 data, the Central Bank is once again conducting its survey of *business enterprises* and *non-profit organizations* resident in Belize.

The Central Bank guarantees that all data submitted will be kept **strictly confidential** and any published statistics will be aggregated so that individual enterprises cannot be identified. To contribute to the effectiveness of this exercise, please submit responses by Friday, 31 January 2025.

The Central Bank of Belize looks forward to your collective cooperation and working together toward a successful survey initiative.

- ENDS –

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)

Belize
Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP)
Loan No.: 9347 BE
Project ID No.: P172592
Assignment Title: Project Coordinator
Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): BZ-SIF-462290-CS-INDV

The Government of Belize has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") is for a suitable qualified fulltime **PROJECT STAFF-PROJECT COORDINATOR** as part of the Project Implementation Unit of the CRESAP within the Belize Social Investment Fund. The Project Coordinator will provide overall leadership and management of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and will coordinate the activities to be implemented. The Project Coordinator will have the ultimate responsibility for planning, budget preparation and management and execution to achieve the Project's objectives and targets. In addition, the Project Coordinator will report to Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Enterprise (MAFSE) and the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) on overall project implementation and will act on the MAFSE behalf in his/her contacts with public and international institutions and provide overall supervision of service providers contracted by the project. The Project Coordinator will also provide regular project update to the Project Oversight Committee.

The GOB has appointed the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) as the implementing agency for the project and the BSIF is seeking to recruit an individual to fill the position of **Project Coordinator**.

The consultancy is expected to be for an initial period of Twenty-four (24) months commencing January 2024. The Project Coordinator will be supervised by the Executive Director of the BSIF and will report to Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Enterprise (MAFSE) and BSIF on overall project implementation.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be viewed on-line at BSIF'S website **https://sifbelize.org** ; at MAFSE's website **https://www.agriculture.gov.bz** or can be requested at the e-mail address below.

The Belize Social Investment Fund now invites eligible individuals ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services (such as cover letter, Curriculum Vitae etc.).

Minimum Mandatory Requirements *(Required)

Qualifications

• Master's degree in project management, agriculture, rural development, or any other field related to the assignment.

General Experience

• Eight years' working experience in public or private sector performing tasks related to managing of projects (max 20 points)

If these minimum requirements are not met, candidates will not be considered for the process

Additional Requirements (Desirable)

Specific Experience

• At least five years' experience in implementation of projects in the agriculturefield (max 30 points)

• At least five years' experience working in rural development, particularly in rural/local communities (max 20 points)

• Minimum of three (3) years' experience working with agriculture value chain particularly livestock or horticulture crops (max 15 points)

• At least five years' experience with project management for activities funded by of IFIs (e.g. World Bank, IDB, CDB, EU etc.) (max 15 points)

Minimum total points required to be considered for the assignment is 75 points.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection of Individual Consultant method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. 0800 to 1600 hours Belize Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **January 24th, 2025** at 17:00 hours Belize Time.

Belize Social Investment Fund
Attn: Orlando Coc, Procurement Assistant
P.O. Box 459, 4253 Hummingbird Highway, Building C, Belmopan City, Belize
Telephone +501-822-0239
Email: procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org
Cc: carlos.tun@sifbelize.org

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)

Belize
Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP)
Loan No.: 9347 BE
Project ID No.: P172592
Assignment Title: Short Term Consultancy to Develop Pesticides Listing
Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): BZ-SIF-462320-CS-INDV

The Government of Belize has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") is for a suitable qualified **Consultant to Develop a Comprehensive List Of Recommendations Of Pesticides**. The objective of this consultancy is to develop a well-researched, comprehensive list of recommended pesticides suitable for crop/commodities under the CRESAP Project considering efficacy, safety, environmental sustainability, and compliance with national and international standards. The consultant will work directly under the supervision of the Registrar of Pesticide in Central Farm. The Pesticides Control Board (PCB) has the legal mandate for the registration of pesticides in Belize.

The GOB has appointed the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) as the implementing agency for the project and the BSIF is seeking to recruit a consultant to develop a comprehensive list of recommendations of pesticides for The Pesticides Control Board (PCB) for 30 working days over three months.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be viewed on-line at BSIF'S website **https://sifbelize.org** ; at MAFSE's website **https://www.agriculture.gov.bz** or can be requested at the e-mail address below.

The Belize Social Investment Fund now invites eligible individuals ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services (such as cover letter, Curriculum Vitae etc.).

Minimum Mandatory Requirements *(Required)

Qualifications

• A Master's degree in environmental, Agro-ecological sciences or related disciplines to the assignment.

General Experience

• At least three (3) years of relevant professional experience in Environmental risk management work, including the development and implementation of Environmental assessments and management plans (Environmental Impact Assessments, Environmental and Social Impact Assessments, Environmental and Social Management Plans, etc.) (max 25 points)

If these minimum requirements are not met, candidates will not be considered for the process

Additional Requirements (Desirable)

Specific Experience

• Experience in Environmental risk management work in agriculture development projects; (max 20 points)

• Proven experience in agricultural inputs management and crop protection strategies. (max 20 points)

• Knowledge of regulatory frameworks and standards related to agricultural practices at the national and international levels. (max 20 points)

• Familiarity with the Rotterdam Convention, and experience with international standards and good practice on pesticide regulation. (max 15 points)

Minimum total points required to be considered for the assignment is 75 points.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection of Individual Consultant method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. 0800 to 1600 hours Belize Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **January 24th, 2025** at 17:00 hours Belize Time.

Belize Social Investment Fund
Attn: Orlando Coc, Procurement Assistant
P.O. Box 459, 4253 Hummingbird Highway, Building C, Belmopan City, Belize
Telephone +501-822-0239
Email: procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org
Cc: carlos.tun@sifbelize.org

MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

CONCRETING OF M&M STREET IN THE LAKE INDEPENDENCE AREA, BELIZE CITY

The Government of Belize (GOB), through the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH), intends to concrete the M&M Street in the Lake Independence Area, Belize City using Rigid Pavement (Reinforced Concrete).

Provided there are no delays, construction is expected to start within a month. The MIDH hereby invites interested contractors in the civil works to be part of this bidding process.

The Project is being implemented by the MIDH, Project Execution Unit (PEU). An Engineering Coordinator within the PEU will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project activities.

The Scope of Works includes:
- Preparation of subgrade layer
- Placement of crushed granular pavement layer
- Drainage improvements
- Paving of the road using Rigid Pavement (Reinforced Concrete)

Consideration will be given to local firms who have qualified extensive experience in road construction of a similar size and complexity.

Minimum Qualification Criteria:
- General Construction Experience: 10 Years
- Specific Construction Experience in application of Rigid Pavement
- Contract Management Experience: 5 Years
- Construction Experience in a Project of Similar Size and Complexity (one)
- Access to Line of Credit: $200,000.00
- Average annual turnover of minimum: Bz$300,000.00
- Qualified registered Engineer: 5 years' experience

Effective **Monday, 20 January 2025**, Bidding Documents are available at a cost of **Bz$500.00** from the address below.

Bidders shall submit proposals (one original and one hard copy) in a sealed envelope to the address below. The sealed envelope containing each submission must include the name and address of the applicant.

All Bidding Documents shall reach the office of the Chief Engineer at the address below no later than **Monday, January 13, 2025**, at **10:00 a.m.** The Ministry shall not be bound to assign any reason for not post-qualifying any contractor and shall not accept responsibility for any cost incurred by the applicants.

A Site Visit will be conducted on **Thursday 23 January 2025** at **10:00am**. Bidders shall congregate at the intersection of Lacroix Boulevard and M&M Street in the Lake Independence Area, Belize City.

All Bidding Documents properly completed should reach the office of the Chief Engineer at the address below no later than **Monday 3 February 2025** at **10:00 am**. The Ministry shall not accept responsibility for any costs incurred by the applicants.

Attention: **Mr. Evondale Moody**
Chief Engineer / Engineering Coordinator
Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Power Lane
Belmopan
BELIZE C.A.

Tel: +501-828-5220
Email: peu@midh.gov.bz

Ministry of Rural Transformation
Community Development, Labour and Local Government

Nº 5163 University Boulevard, Belmopan
(501) 822-2679
(501) 802-2663
(501) 802-2297
(501) 802-0671
info@labour.gov.bz
www.ruraltransformation.gov.bz

CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

Consultancy Services for the Comprehensive Review of the Labour Act in Belize

PURPOSE:

The Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government is inviting proposals from qualified consultancy firms to conduct a comprehensive review of the Labour Chapter 297, Revised Edition 2020.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTANCY:

The objective of this consultancy is to engage a qualified consultancy firm to conduct a comprehensive review of the Labour Act, Chapter 297, Revised Edition 2020, with the aim of modernizing the Act and streamlining related legislations. This includes identifying areas for improvement, preparing recommendations for legislative changes that align with current labour standards and Belize's evolving needs, and drafting the necessary amendments.

MAIN ACTIVITIES:

(i) **Inception Report:** Submit a detailed work plan, methodology, and timeline for the review process within two weeks of contract signing.

(ii) **Situational and Policy Analysis Report:** Prepare an in-depth assessment of the current Labour Act, and related legislations based on public and stakeholders' consultations, interviews and a thorough desk review of key documentation, national regional, and international legislative records and any other relevant materials obtained through independent research using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies.

(iii) **Conduct Public and Stakeholders Consultation:** Coordination with the Labour Act Review Committee, the Ministry of Labour and representatives of the ILO, to conduct consultations with social partners and national stakeholders.

(iv) **Drafting of the White paper and the and Modernized Labour Act:** Prepare multiple drafts of the modernized Labour Act and overseeing the consultations conducted regarding these drafts.

(v) **Presentation of Draft Legislation:** Present the draft legislation to key stakeholders, including the Review Committee, Ministry of Labour, and the ILO.

(vi) **Final Report and Legislative Draft:** Produce a final version of the Modernized Labour Act.

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND ELIGIBILITY OF CONSULTANCY FIRM

Consultancy firms seeking to undertake this consultancy must ensure that team members within the firm possess the following:

- A Law Degree (LLB) with at least ten (10) years of post-qualification experience in practicing law in Belize or the Caribbean, including experience in employment law.
- Demonstrated experience in legislative drafting and legal reform processes.
- A member in good standing with the Belize Bar Association or a recognized home-country Bar Association.
- In-depth knowledge of Belize's legal system, including the Labour Act and other labour laws, as well as familiarity with CARICOM Model Laws.
- Strong knowledge of Labour Market and Labour economics.
- Understanding of ILO Conventions and their application.
- Strong analytical, research, and communication skills.
- Ability to conduct qualitative and quantitative research.
- Experience in facilitating public and stakeholder consultations.
- Proficiency in English and Spanish.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- Sound judgment, strategic thinking, and the ability to manage competing project activities.
- Ability to produce high-quality outputs within time and budget.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS AND SELECTION PROCESS:

Each proposal should consist of the following:

1. **Curriculum Vitae:** A CV (2 pages maximum) highlighting the consultancy firm's experience in similar projects. It should include:
   - A summary of professional and academic qualifications, with emphasis on experience in legislative drafting, labour law, and legal reform.
   - Examples of previous work where the firm has led or contributed to the drafting or modernization of legislation, particularly in labour or employment law, Rule of Law, legal frameworks, CARICOM Model Law, knowledge of government processes, social dialogue, industrial relations, ILO Conventions, Recommendations and Protocols, and supervisory systems.
   - Detailed experience in stakeholder engagement, particularly in conducting consultations with diverse groups.
   - Relevant samples of work and/or hyperlinks to published material.

2. **Cover Letter:** A letter detailing the firm's interest in the position and its suitability for the role. It should outline the firm's understanding of the project scope and how its background aligns with the project's needs. Additionally, the letter should describe the proposed approach to managing the review and modernization of the Labour Act, including any unique strategies or methodologies. The letter should also indicate the firm's availability for the duration of the consultancy.

3. **Technical Proposal:** This should include a brief methodology, including the firm's approach to reviewing existing legislation, conducting stakeholder consultations, drafting new legislation, and finalizing the legislative framework. A draft timeline for the key deliverables (see section VI, paragraphs (i) to (iv) of the Terms of Reference) should be included. The proposal should also detail how the firm will ensure adherence to international labour standards while aligning with Belize's legal and socio-economic context.
   - The consultancy is expected to begin in March 2025 and complete the project by March 2026.
   - The schedule and method for stakeholder consultations will be determined jointly after the selection process, based on stakeholder availability.

4. **Price Proposal:** A price proposal that includes all consultancy fees and related expenses. Meetings and workshop costs will be covered by the Ministry.

5. **References:** Provide at least three professional references from previous clients or employers who can attest to the firm's capabilities in legal drafting and legislative review. Include contact details for each reference.

6. Incomplete proposals will not be considered.

7. The full Terms of Reference may be requested from labour.comm@labour.gov.bz.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
All submissions must be made by 31st January 2025 at 4:00pm to:

Labour Commissioner
Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government, 5163 University Boulevard, Belmopan City, **CAYO**

MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

PAVING OF MAIN ACCESS ROAD IN HATTIEVILLE VILLAGE (GEORGE PRICE HIGHWAY JUNCTION TO FREETOWN SIBUN)

The Government of Belize (GOB), through the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH), intends to pave the main access road in Hattieville Village (George Price Highway Junction to Freetown Sibun) using Double Bituminous Surface Treatment (DBST).

Provided there are no delays, construction is expected to start within a month. The MIDH hereby invites interested contractors in the civilworks to be part of this bidding process.

The Project is being implemented by the MIDH, Project Execution Unit (PEU). An Engineering Coordinator within the PEU will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project activities.

The Scope of Works includes:
- Preparation of subgrade layer
- Placement of subbase and basecourse layers
- Drainage improvements
- Paving of the road using Double Bituminous Surface Dressing Treatment (DBST)

Consideration will be given to local firms who have qualified extensive experience in road construction of a similar size and complexity.

Minimum Qualification Criteria:
- General Construction Experience: 10 Years
- Specific Construction Experience in application of DBST
- Contract Management Experience: 5 Years
- Construction Experience in a Project of Similar Size and Complexity (one)
- Access to Line of Credit: $200,000.00
- Average annual turnover of minimum: Bz$300,000.00
- Qualified registered Engineer: 5 years' experience

Effective **Monday, 20 January 2025**, Bidding Documents are available at a cost of **Bz$500.00** from the address below.

Bidders shall submit proposals (one original and one hard copy) in a sealed envelope to the address below. The sealed envelope containing each submission must include the name and address of the applicant.

A Site Visit will be conducted on **Thursday 23 January 2025** at **10:00am**. Bidders shall congregate at the intersection of the George Price Highway Junction with Freetown Sibun.

All Bidding Documents properly completed should reach the office of the Chief Engineer at the address below no later than **Monday 3 February 2025** at **10:00 am**. The Ministry shall not accept responsibility for any costs incurred by the applicants.

Attention: **Mr. Evondale Moody**
Chief Engineer / Engineering Coordinator
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